

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Uwe HEITMANN et al.

Appl. No: Unassigned

Filed: October 15, 2001

For: METHOD OF AND APPARATUS
FOR MAKING A TOBACCO ROD

Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

Atty. Docket No: 31653-175416

Customer No:



26694

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

JC821 U.S. PTO
09/976291
10/15/01

Information Disclosure Statement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 within the time specified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

In order to comply with applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is notified of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application. One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The references are cited in the present specification.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

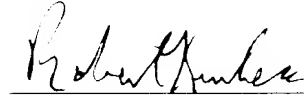
In view of the above, no further translation or statement of relevance is required, and as all requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and all official guide lines pertaining to Information Disclosure Statements have been complied with, and it is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the documents and make them of record.

Please charge any necessary fee or credit any overpayment in connection with this
Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

10/17/01



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